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Vol. 16, No. 42

Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

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Monmouth's Guns-for-Cash pays out more than \$14,000



Freehold collected 23 rifles in its gun-for-cash program.

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

In the wake of lawmakers on Capitol Hill shooting down a proposed new bill to control the use of guns, Monmouth County has implemented its own initiative to quell the use of such dangerous weapons — it's paying people to turn guns in.

For the third year, Freehold has been successful in collecting guns in its gun-for-cash program.

In the two-day drive held earlier this month, Freehold collected a total of 73 guns — 47 handguns, 22 rifles and four other weapons which were not included in other category, while shelling out a total of \$2,900.

A little farther up the road and in its second year, Red Bank collected 174 weapons — 129 handguns, 16 rifles, 23 shotguns and three assault weapons, three BB and pellet guns.

Red Bank paid a total of \$7,725, with shotguns and rifles netting \$25, \$50 for

"Red Bank paid a total of \$7,725, with shotguns and rifles netting \$25, \$50 for handguns and \$100 for assault weapons."

handguns and \$100 for assault weapons.

Meanwhile, over in Neptune money ran scarce in the gun-for-cash program. Although law enforcement doesn't consider the effort an end-all to crime, it does recognize that the program helps to "take a bite out of crime."

Many of the people in all three townships turning in guns are senior citizens, who claimed the guns had not been used and were kept in the home for protection.

Children, too, who were given guns from their parents, turned out to hand them over.

All of the guns were destroyed by a metal shredder at the Monmouth County Reclamation Center.

And though some participants appeared nervous and leery in turning in the guns, officials asked no questions in regard to license information or personal background.

However, all the weapons recovered were run through a data base to check to see if they were stolen or had been used in any criminal way. It was DuBois in the next step for the guns-for-cash program.

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

NEW YORK — Black Americans are winning the war against gun enemies, Jesse Jackson said at the NAACP convention in last week. And the nation's oldest and largest civil rights group fired off salvoes of aggressive initiatives in the name of fairness and diversity.

"Let us consider that just seventy years ago, the Democratic National Convention could not pass a resolution condemning the activities of the Ku Klux Klan," he said. He cited the recent Aryan Nation march in Idaho, drowned out by thousands of "equally white protesters, eager to tell the world that those marchers marched alone."

"We leave the 20th Century in a much different condition from which we found it," Jackson said.

However, guns are epidemic in many black communities, the major networks feature a racial minority in their new fall TV lineups, redlining and disparity in high-tech communications remain serious, and excellence is absent from the lodging industry according to the NAACP's report card (most hotels got fair grades).

The NAACP launched its new lawsuit against gun manufacturers which, if successful, would force radical change into the industry's business practices, rather than money damages. Building on the landmark verdict in the Hamilton vs. Accu-tek case, it was filed late last week in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Easily available handguns have turned "many of our communities into war zones," said Mfume. "The fact that the illegal trafficking of firearms disproportionately affects minority communities in this country is indisputable. Urban communities have sadly become so accustomed to the prevalence of firearms in their neighborhoods that they are no longer shocked at the sound of gunfire."

According to a 1996 National Vital Statistics Report, African-American males ages 15-24 are almost five times more likely to be injured by firearms than white males in the same age group. Black females in that category are almost four times more likely to be injured by firearms than white females. Firearms homicide has been the leading cause of death among young African American males for nearly 30 years.

"The gun industry has refused to take even basic measures to keep criminals and prohibited persons from obtaining firearms," said Mfume. "Last week's tragic shootings in Indiana and Illinois bear witness to the results of the gun industry's willingness to turn a blind eye."

A member of a white supremacist organization killed an African American man, a Korean

See NAACP, pg. 3

Rutgers professor is awarded \$375,000 MacArthur fellowship

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Of the 32 MacArthur Fellowship winners this year, three blacks emerged as distinguished fellows, one being David Levering Lewis, a professor of history at Rutgers University, who received a \$375,000 fellowship.

A scholar of race relations, cultural historian and notable biographer, Lewis has recently garnered the coveted fellowship based on his in-depth research on the Harlem work in progress biography of W.E.B. DuBois.

In a recent telephone interview from his New York home, Lewis said "DuBois" was multifaceted one of the intellectual, scholar, journalist, propagandist and magnificent prose stylist. The emphasis is the importance of his life and his contributions."

DuBois created The Crisis, a black periodical in the early 20th Century, during a time when black print media was more than obliged to exercise its powerful voice.

DuBois' Crisis followed the lead of the abolitionist newspaper Freedom's Journal and The North Star by Frederick Douglass, who DuBois admired. It was DuBois who helped found the National Association for the Advancement of Col-



Professor David Levering Lewis

ored People, which was originally referred to as the Niagara Movement, and recently the organization celebrated its 90th anniversary.

The NAACP, a champion for justice, serves as an ongoing legacy of DuBois. Lewis, 63, was in part acknowledged for his extensive research and his view on America's racial situation.

He plans to return to Rut-

gers in the fall and to finish the second volume of the biography. He stated that he will take some leave time after the volume is complete.

Teaching at the university since 1985, he's extremely proud of those students who truly explore and examine history.

"Having really smart graduate students who will receive PhDs and write books is a great joy," said Lewis.

The other black recipients of fellowships were Gay J. McLaughlin, 51, executive director of the International Human Rights Law Group in Washington, D.C. who received \$30,000; and Fred Wilson, 44, an artist, who received \$30,000.

McDougall was acknowledged for her work in new democracies with special attention being given to human rights in South Africa.

While Wilson, explored the relationship between museums and art.

As a visual artist, he arranges displays, refurbishes museum storage pieces and creates new installations that highlight important social and cultural experiences.

The Chicago-based John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, a private foundation dedicated in helping improve life chose the winners.

NAACP strikes back Takes aim at TV "blackout," gunmaker



From the WB network, (pictured back row, left to right) Shawn and Marion Wayne ("The Wayans Bros."), Jamie Fox ("The Jamie Foxx Show"), Steve Harvey ("The Steve Harvey Show"). (Front row) Holly Robinson Peete ("For Your Love"). Photo by Frank Coker/et

Study finds most former welfare recipients working

WASHINGTON — Most people who have left the welfare rolls are working, according to a new Urban Institute policy brief, "Where Are They Now? What States' Studies of People Who Left Welfare Tell Us," by Urban Institute researchers Pamela Loprest and Sarah Branner.

"Of those employed, most are working at least 30 hours per week, and on average their earnings are below the poverty level," said lead author Loprest. She cautioned, however, that the studies reviewed did not generally take other sources of economic support into consideration, such as Medicaid, food stamps, housing assistance, and child support.

The policy brief, prepared for the Urban Institute's Assessing the New Federalism project, summarizes new data on employment rates, characteristics of employment, and other indicators of well-being for former welfare recipients from 11 state studies.

The studies were conducted in Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio (Cuyahoga County), South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and two in Wisconsin. The researchers chose these studies to review because they clearly described their methodology and reported survey response rates of 50 percent or higher.

Loprest and Branner also highlight several issues to consider in comparing results from the great number and variety of "welfare leaver" studies now being conducted across the country.

Among the most important, how key terms are defined, whether the survey distinguishes between voluntary welfare leavers and those sanctioned off the rolls, and what the respective response rates are.

The timely review of these state studies comes as the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources prepares to hold a hearing on the effects of welfare reform this Thursday, May 27th.

A new General Accounting Office report on the issue will be released at that hearing, adding to the growing body of evidence on the role of employment in determining the economic well-being of welfare leavers.

Assessing the New Federalism is a multiyear Urban Institute project designed to analyze the devolution of responsibility for social programs from the federal government to the states. The project analyzes changes in income support, social services, and health programs. Researchers monitor program changes and fiscal developments.

McDonald's files suit against Burger King



MIAMI — Burger King Corporation (BKC) announced today that it will defend its right to use the name Burger King Big Kids Meal despite a recent lawsuit filed by McDonald's.

On June 28, 1999, Burger King Corporation was the first fast-food company to introduce nationwide a "Big Kids Meal" that fills a need for more than 19 million 7-12 year olds, or "twelves," in the U.S.

McDonald's is claiming that they had secured the rights to use that name. "Based on our years of research, we know that twelves still want a toy, but a regular sized kids meal did not offer enough food after the age of seven," said Richard Taylor, vice president, Marketing, Burger King Corporation. "Everyone has a kid's meal program. The Chicago-based John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, a private foundation dedicated in helping improve life chose the winners."

Burger King Corporation and its franchisees operate more than 10,400 restaurants in all 50 states and 54 countries and international territories around the world. Since the company's founding in Miami in 1954, the Burger King brand has become recognized for great flame-broiling taste and "Have It Your Way" food customization.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

ELIZABETH — The E-Port Steering Community and Family Center presents the 28th Annual JulyFest at the Family Center at Pioneer Homes, 4 p.m. (908) 965-2845.

ELIZABETH — Mayor Chris Bollag will hold a town hall meeting on family and children services at the Elizabeth Public Library, 4 p.m. (908) 850-4029.

NEWARK — The Newark Museum presents a tribute to singer Jane Austen with special guest Julianne Baird, 12:15 p.m. (973) 596-6550.

FREEHOLD — The Monmouth County Park System presents the 25th Annual Monmouth County Fair through July 25. Call (732) 842-4000 for time and information.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

SPRINGFIELD — The Union County Division of Cultural & Heritage Affairs presents an art exhibit featuring the works of Emma Stone at the Donald Palmer Museum, call (973) 376-4930 for time and information.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents singer Jackie Jones at Military Park, part of the Sweet City Summer Lunchtime Concert Series, 12 p.m. (973) 739-1800.

READINGTON — GPU Energy presents The 7th Annual Quick Chick New Jersey Festival of Ballooning takes place at Solberg Airport, 1 p.m. (201) 445-7906.

SUMMIT — The Union County Division of Cultural & Heritage Affairs presents the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts Members' Show & Sale at NJ Center for Visual Arts, call (908) 273-9121 for time and information.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

ELIZABETH — Mayor Chris Bollag and the City Department of Cultural Affairs presents Knights of Columbus Family Picnic on Union Avenue, 2 p.m. (908) 820-4029.

ROSELLE PARK — The Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs presents an art exhibit featuring the work of Jay Gehring Smith at the Roselle Park Library, call (908) 245-7171 for time and information.

ATLANTIC CITY — The Abasco Lighthouse presents its first Art Show and Sale, 11 a.m. (609) 441-0272.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

NEW YORK — The Morris-Jumel Mansion host a discussion on religion

and democracy of the early United States, 2 p.m. (212) 923-8008.

MONDAY, JULY 26

JERSEY CITY — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a group discussion on raising your self-esteem, 4:30 p.m. (201) 200-3426.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

NEW YORK — WNET (Thirteen) hosts the First Annual National Teacher Training Institute and Seminar through July 30 at the Nightingale-Bamford School, Call (212) 560-1313 for time and information.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Zany Brainy Store on R-18 presents children playwright Mary Pope Osborne, 7 p.m. (732) 651-0002.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents musical group Line Drive at Military Park, part of the Sweet City Summer Lunchtime Concert Series, 12 p.m. (973) 739-1800.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

NEWARK — The New Jersey Community Water Watch will hold a community clean up meeting at Brook Brook Park, 9:30 a.m. (973) 353-6021.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

PLAINFIELD — The City of Plainfield comes out for Youth Afternoon Out and National Night Out, an day of community togetherness against crime and drugs, Park Madison, At 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. (908) 561-1158.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents musical group Linda Pansera and the Davis Cats at Military Park, part of the Sweet City Summer Lunchtime Concert Series, 12 p.m. (973) 739-1800.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

NEW YORK — Contempo Tours presents the Eighth Annual Celebration at Sea Cruise, to benefit the United Negro College Fund, Call (212) 673-0736 for more information.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and the Newark Municipal Council presents jazz musician Vince Senior and the Platinum II Jazz Band at Military Park, part of the Sweet City Summer Lunchtime Concert Series, 12

Fabric Land customers provide food for needy



NORTH PLAINFIELD — Fabric Land in North Plainfield recently offered customers ten percent off their total purchase if they bought in three cans of food or packaged goods. It's part of the organizations relationship with the Community Foodbank of New Jersey in Hillsdale, which provides services to hundreds of soup kitchens, homeless shelters and emergency pantries in Plainfield, Somerset and Elizabeth areas. Plainfield resident and Fabric Land customer service representative Felicia Campbell (left) and Margo Nigro, director of communications for the Community Food Bank of New Jersey were hand to donate items to the less fortunate.

Newark Employee of the Month honors Hughes



NEWARK — Cynthia Hughes is a Newark resident and Navy veteran. She went to work for the Division of Recreation and Culture in 1995 and was transferred to the Mayor's Office that August. She was recently promoted to the office's Assistant Chief Clerk.

Bradley overcomes hardships and graduates



CHESTER — Devereux Deerrhaven in Chester, the only school and residential treatment center in the state exclusively for troubled girls and young women, recently staged a festive graduation ceremony boasting girls completing eighth grade and high school. Surrounded by her proud family at the Devereux Deerrhaven Graduation is high school graduate Tequila Bradley of Jersey City (center) holding a bouquet of flowers for her accomplishments. Congratulating her are (from l-r) grandmother Jackie Bradley, brother Randolph Bradley, mom Doris Bradley, family friend Anthony Williams and grandmother Catherine Johnson.

Kid wins eating contest at festival in Union



UNION — Nine-year-old Nakeerah Hood (right) dove right into her strawberry cream pie and kept eating until Union County Freshholder Vice Chairman Daniel Sullivan (left) called out her name as winner of the pie eating contest at Kids Kingdom Traveling Jubilee held recently at Warrenton Park. The event is a day long celebration of music and games for the whole family.

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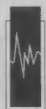


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BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

BRIDGEWATER — The New Jersey Technology Council and Human Resources Plan Track presents a seminar and dinner on creating a business. Bridgewater Manor 5 p.m. (609) 452-1010.

MONDAY, JULY 26

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course in how to obtain financial wealth through real estate. 7 p.m. (908) 708-7500.

JERSEY CITY — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a seminar on how to build money with a few dollars per guest speaker Peter Nussli at First Investors. 7:30 p.m. (201) 283-3189.

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course on how to make your resume work for you. 7 p.m. (908) 708-7500.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

WARREN — Inroads hosts its Tenth Anniversary Gala Celebration with a dinner, live entertainment and jazz concert through July 28. Call (732) 246-1144 for information on time and location.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

SOMERSET — Inroads will hold its Tenth Anniversary Awards Reception with guest speakers, show host and author Tony Brown. Doubletree Hotel 7 p.m. (732) 249-1144.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

NEW YORK — The African American Male Empowerment Summit will have a keynote address by the Honorable Minister of the Americas, Rev. Al Sharpton and Pastor Willie McRae at Columbia University's New Library on July 31 at 10 a.m. Call (973) 763-2007 for information.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

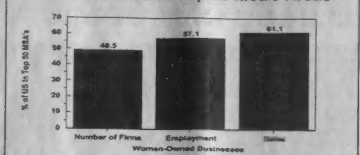
NEW YORK — The Professional Women's Conference (PWC) holds a business networking and luncheon to meet the 99 seniors at La Magueire Restaurant. 5:30 p.m. (212) 697-0010.

Women-owned businesses thrive in nation's top 50 metro areas

WASHINGTON — The employment and revenue generated by women-owned businesses have more than doubled since 1992 in the majority of the nation's 50 top metropolitan areas, especially in the New York Metropolitan area.

These are the findings of a 1999 analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data released June 29 by the National Foundation for Women Business Owners (NFWBO) and Wells Fargo. The report updates a 1996 NFWBO/Wells Fargo study and documents that women-owned businesses are continuing to grow faster than the economy in these leading areas.

Half of Number, More Than Half of Employment and Sales of Women-Owned Firms Located in Top 50 Metro Areas



Source: National Foundation for Women Business Owners, (c) 1999

metropolitan areas has grown significantly—ranging from a 33% to a 59% increase.

ing system based on an averaging of number of firms, employment, and sales are: 1) New York, N.Y.; 2) Los Angeles-Long Beach, Calif.; 3) Chicago, Ill.; 4) Philadelphia, Pa.; 5) Houston, Texas; 6) Washington, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.V.; 7) Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, Wash.; 8) Dallas, Texas; 9) Orange County, Calif.; and 10) Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.

NFWBO's research shows that nationally, there are 9.1 million women-owned businesses in the U.S. as of 1999, said Lois E. Haber, CLU, ChFC, NFWBO Chair, and President and CEO of Delaware Valley Financial Services, Inc. in Berwyn, Pa. "The top 50 metro areas are home to half of these firms — nearly 4.6 million businesses. Furthermore, these firms are increasingly substantial, making important contributions to the economic health and

vitality of their local communities by employing a total of 15.5 million people and generating \$3.1 trillion in sales."

"We believe our Women's Loan Program is contributing to this phenomenal growth of women-owned businesses and we're committed to continue to help them grow and prosper," said Colleen Anderson, Executive Vice President at Wells Fargo. "We're lending at an average of close to \$1.5 billion a year to women business owners and I'm proud to announce that only three-and-a-half years into our 10-year program, we've already lent \$5.2 billion."

The cities with the fastest growth in women-owned businesses ranked on an averaging of the percent growth in number, employment and sales between 1992 and 1999 are in the South, West or Midwest.

Service brings relief to delinquent taxpayers

LOS ANGELES — With a staggering 25 million Americans owing back taxes to the IRS, an innovative service is poised to bring relief to those who need it.

Once intimidation tactics start, few taxpayers realize that they have negotiating power because the IRS is not obliged to sell them what their options are, says Bruce Mayberry, general manager of Los Angeles-based Capital Tax Relief. "We can almost always make a settlement," he notes.

The 800 cases resolved last year by Capital Tax Relief represent all types of people, from high-powered executive to truck driver — even tax attorney. The process of arriving at a settlement usually takes three to six weeks, Mayberry says. But once Capital Tax Relief takes power of attorney and begins the negotiating process, the IRS will stop its aggressive pursuit of payment.

"What usually causes people to get into trouble is ignoring the problem when it is still relatively small and easy to solve," Mayberry says. The consequences of ignoring it can be dire, because once a taxpayer is several years behind, the penalties — piled

onto the original amount owed — add up to a eight-month debt.

The path to settlement is formula-driven, says Mayberry, and depends on income, assets and debt. The problem is, comprehension of federal and state tax law eludes most mortals. "Nobody has time to study 75,000 pages of tax code," says Mayberry. He usually obtains cents-on-the-dollar settlements, known in the tax world as "Offers in Compromise." The IRS code also allows for removal of penalties and interest when there are "extenuating circumstances" which contributed to the problem.

Ultimately, the IRS will seize wages and other assets and place liens on property — which is many contact Capital Tax Relief. Seizure of assets generally starts once a taxpayer receives a "Levy Notice" or defaults on a payment plan. Capital Tax Relief can prevent seizures and sometimes recover property already taken by the IRS, and can also negotiate affordable payment plans in lieu of lump sum settlements.

Capital Tax Relief is located in West Los Angeles and services clients nationwide; the telephone number is 800-762-3960.

Costly big government health care defeated

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Chamber of Commerce today hailed the Senate health care votes this week as victories for business, the economy and the right to reduce the rising number of uninsured in America.

U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue praised the Senate for defeating the Kennedy "Patients Bill of Rights" and other proposals that would have made health insurance more expensive and imposed more government regulations.

"It's a national disgrace that 43 million Americans are uninsured. These proposals would have made crisis worse, and the Senate was right to defeat them," Donohue said, adding proposals that would have exposed employers to lawsuits and imposed costly new mandates.

In a victory for small business, the Senate made it easier for the self-employed to afford health care coverage by allowing them to immedi-

ately deduct the full cost of health insurance.

"This tax deductibility will make health insurance more accessible and affordable for the self-employed," Donohue said. "Thousands of entrepreneurs all across America should not have to make a choice between having health care or not."

The Chamber employed its extensive grassroots and lobbying resources during Senate consideration of the health care proposals.

To fix the health care crisis, the Chamber supports increasing access, controlling costs and improving quality through targeted, market-based reform measures, including malpractice reform, state-mandated, exempt purchasing pools for small business, better consumer information and full 100 percent tax deductibility for the self-employed and others whose employers are unable to offer health coverage.

"With employers providing health care coverage for over 150

million Americans and their families, the U.S. Chamber has a strong interest in improving our health care system," Donohue continued. "Any solution to the problem must be market-based and significantly improve access to affordable, quality health care."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.

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Religion

RELIGION CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

BLOOMFIELD — First Baptist Church will hold youth bible study 7:45 p.m. (973) 743-2400.

NEW YORK — T.D. Jakes will join the Good News New York Gospel crusade meeting at Madison Square Garden. Call (212) 785-9624 for time and information.

EAST ORANGE — The Holy Spirit and Our Lady Help of Christians presents a exposition of blessed sacrament service 7 p.m. (973) 673-1077.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

PLAINFIELD — House of Prayer Church of God in Christ will honor its pastor Bishop William T. Cohoon. 5 p.m. (908) 561-8666.

Critics say former church is dangerous racist group

By Christopher Thomas
AP Writer

EAST PEORIA, Ill. (AP) — It styles itself as a religion, but the World Church of the Creator — to which alleged racist cleric Benjamin Nathaniel Smith once belonged — has no altar and no place of worship. Its leader is a 35-year-old white man who reaches devotees through Internet site dripping with racism and maintained from a swastika-adorned room in his parents' East Peoria home. An Israeli flag serves as his doormat. All that's needed to join the church is \$35. For that, members get a 25-page manual offering loyalty oaths and a glossary of terms like "Rahowah" and the acronym that stands for "Racial Holy War" and is used as a greeting by members. Followers also can read an Internet newsletter in which Smith, 21, was profiled last month as "the most evil of the Month" for his efforts to disseminate racist literature.

In its critics, the church amounts to a loosely connected — but dangerous — mark of racism and hate-theologues. Mark Potok, a researcher with the Southern Poverty Law Center, said Monday that the church is thought to have 46 chapters and several hundred active members. "This is a religion for and created by sociopaths," Potok said. Hatewatch.org, which monitors hate sites on the Internet, says the church has the fastest-growing Internet presence among racist groups. The group dates back to 1973, when it was founded by Ben Klassen, a Florida real estate man from Ukraine who became wealthy after inventing an electric can opener. Klassen wrote tracts of explosive racism, urging whites to push blacks, Jews and other "mud races" off the face of the planet.

After one group member was convicted of beating a black sailor to death in a Florida parking lot, Klassen committed suicide, swallowing four bottles of sleeping pills in 1993.

The church seemed to disappear until the appearance of Matt Hale, who was made "Pontifex Maximus" — an ancient Roman title meaning Supreme Leader — in 1995 on a Montana ranch. Hate-group monitors say they believe Hale's church has grown under Hale's recruiting efforts from East Peoria and with his use of the Internet. Since Smith's death, the Web site has been shut down. According to Hale, Smith joined in 1998, but allowed his one-year membership to lapse in May.

Potok and others believe the World Church of the Creator is responsible for encouraging violence like the two-state shooting spree that left two dead and at least eight wounded, and ended in Smith's suicide late Sunday in Salem, Ill.

While the church's Web site included a note saying it does not condone violence, it also called for a racist holy war and extermination of non-whites. Members have been convicted of murder, beatings and conspiracies to bomb NAACP offices and black churches. "Hale and his group are not building bombs, but they are building bombings, creating shooters," Potok said. "Hale is saying he's not responsible, but Hale is a hypocrite." Hale said he urges church members to stay within the law.

Blaming the shootings on his group, he said, is akin to blaming the pope for atomic clinic bombings. Last week, an Illinois state hearing board rejected Hale's appeal for a law license. The board said Hale's beliefs and character make him ill-suited to practice law. He made no follow-up to the board's decision for lawyers. Smith had testified for Hale before being slain in April.

6th Annual Jersey City Gospel celebration

Honor and joy shouted through Arlington Memorial Park as Jersey City presented its Sixth Annual Gospel Celebration Day. At right, Ray Harper & Reign with Him were among the invited guests who kept the crowd jumping and moving in their seats. Left, Jersey City Mayor Bret Schundler (center) enjoys the gorgeous Sunday with are organizers of the Gospel Celebration created by the Jersey City Mass Choir and co-sponsored by the Jersey City Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Arts Commission: Coordinator Janice Williams (left); assistant coordinators Dianne Jennings and Louis Diggs (top); and mistress of ceremonies Marcia Morrison (bottom).



POSITIVELY BLACK

By Juan Ricardo Stanton

We are all creatures of habit

"Sins like snakes, die hard. The habits and customs of a people were not to be changed in a day, nor by the stroke of a pen." Charles W. Chesnut

Humanism are creatures of habit. Most of what we do on a daily basis is habit. Many of our habits are beliefs, ideas and behaviors we developed by watching and imitating others. Some are patterns we acquired ourselves, some we were taught, while we were being nurtured, coerced, or intimidated into adopting others. We have personal habits and patterns. But we've adopted the familial, group or societal patterns we call culture, tradition, customs and mores. Customs are societal habits and patterns. Traditions are habitual ways of doing things that have been passed from one generation to another.

Most Blacks in America are descendants of Africans who were forcibly and unwillingly brought to this hemisphere. Their European captors systematically stripped them of their habitual/traditional beliefs, values, relationships and perceptions of the world. In place of time-honored indigenous African values, psychological relationships and behavioral patterns were juxtaposed a harsh and alien system of ideas and behaviors that were supposed to break their spirit, dehumanize them, reduce them to docile beasts of burden by fearfully engendering self-hatred, self-negation and acquiescence to a crippling self-image and subordinate status. The process was not accomplished overnight nor has it abated in less than 400 hundred years. It is just a more subtle and refined operation now.

Whites have invested an enormous amount of energy and effort into their quest to dominate us. That has become their habit, norm, custom and culture. This pattern has been going on in one guise or another for almost 400 hundred years. It is practiced in every state of the union, sanctioned by the federal, state and local governments and agreed to by the vast majority of Whites. We can accurately state that racism, Black subjugation and disprivilege are inextricably woven

into the cultural fabric of this nation.

Before Europeans came to these shores they had an extensive history and culture of violence and war-mongering. Enlightened societies recognized that the human spirit seeks self-actualization: infinite expansion and development of its innate potential and possibilities. Western society has never recognized this truth or established systems to facilitate this expansion primarily because it lacked a pattern or culture of discerning and understanding the holistic triune nature (spiritual, mental and physical) of humanity. The religious Europeans developed; rather recently by comparison to other civilizations, offered a lip service to the idea of a human soul but only as a means to coerce their people into submitting to their ecclesiastical authority (Church) in order to "save" them from "eternal damnation." European Popes and Emperors never fully comprehended the holistic process because their primary goal was temporal domination rather than spiritual enlightenment.

Africans, on the other hand, no

matter how impoverished always fashioned and maintained societies based upon concepts of collectivism, communal living, complex and harmonious organization and respect for all an pervading creative spirit.

Once they were captured and subjected to the abhorrent behavior of both the Arabs and Europeans, our ancestors did what normal human beings would do, they resisted and fought back. They resisted mentally, psychologically and physically. The more they resisted, the more oppressive the response of the Caucasians. However, we are not bound by habits. We have the capacity to change ourselves and our reality. Humanity is doing the same thing over and over with the same people, expecting things to turn out differently. If we desire to experience sanity, we must think, believe and act differently.

You may contact Juan Ricardo Stanton at e-mail address: JRStanton@aol.com

Convention kicks off in grand musical style

NASHVILLE, TN — Reunion recording artist Clay Croose's first single, "I Will Follow Christ" off his new release, *I Surrender All*, (The Clay Croose Collection, Vol. 1) was named the official theme song to the Baptist Sunday School Board's 75th year anniversary celebration of the Cooperative Program. The song, a dynamic duo with Clay Croose, BeBe Winans and Bob Carlisle, kicked off the opening ceremonies of the annual Southern Baptist Convention last month in Atlanta. With over 11,000 in attendance, Clay, BeBe and Bob performed the song in the Georgia Dome with a backdrop of video footage from the song and Baptist-innovation efforts across the world.



Pictured (l-r) Bob Carlisle, Clay Croose and BeBe Winans.

"I Will Follow Christ" was selected by the Baptist Sunday School Board to promote and encourage mission work through the Cooperative Program in a campaign leading up to the actual anniversary celebration in May 2000. The lyrics of the song, written by Clay Croose and Steve Siler, put into words what volunteers have done for 75 years through different Baptist churches and missions organizations. The cooperative programs include: missions work at home and abroad, prayer support, financial support, ministering through church leadership, inner city work, and benevolent work.

To help promote the "I Will Follow Christ" song and campaign and encourage new church members, Christians and fans to take part in missions work, Clay Croose, BeBe Winans and Bob Carlisle will be involved in a late summer tour. They will travel to 20 key Baptist churches to perform the song and share their testimonies of "following Christ." The free concert will be a worship service. A copy of the "I Will Follow Christ" video will also be sent out to every Baptist church throughout the country with literature on the campaign.

Righteous Rhythms Tommy Boy

"Cast thy burdens upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee."

Psalm 55:22

Keepin' It Real The Album



EVERETT COLLECTION Kim Burrell

(Top) Tommy Boy Gospel featuring many of the powerhouse of Gospel is an up tempo CD filled with inspiration. (Bottom) Everlasting life by Kim Burrell is climbing straight to the top of the Gospel charts.

War veteran Henry Everett, 71

RED BANK — Henry McCoy Everett, son of Melvinne and Maynard Everett, was born on August 28, 1927, in Winton, North Carolina. He departed this earthly life at the age of seventy-one, on Sunday, June 27, 1999, while at home.

Henry was baptized on July 1, 1938 in Raleigh, North Carolina. He was educated at the Everett School in Hartford County, North Carolina.

Henry, affectionately known as "Serge", entered the United States Army in 1946. He honorably served in the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War and retired on October 31, 1966, after 20 years of service. Henry was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church, Red Bank.

Henry was predeceased by his wife, Mary L. Everett on January 18, 1977, his parents, Melvinne and Maynard Everett, and three brothers: Ernest Everett, George Everett, and Betty Everett.

Left to cherish his precious memories are son, Demetrius Everett; daughter, Brenda Jones, both of Red Bank, New Jersey; two brothers, Jetturo and Maynard Everett; two sisters, Leslie Aceto and Willie Mae Johnson, all of Long Branch, New Jersey.

Top female black Republican, Victoria Buckley, 51

DENVER, Col. (AP) — Secretary of State Victoria Buckley, who rose from the welfare rolls to become the nation's highest-ranking black female Republican in a state-wide office, died Thursday of cardiac arrest. She was 51.

Ms. Buckley, who had been hospitalized in January for an irregular heartbeat, suffered severe brain damage with no chance of recovery, said her cardiologist Dr. Jeb Burchinal.

"She overcame many challenges in life and achieved high office in our state through determination and hard work," GOP Gov. Bill Owens said. Born in Denver, Ms. Buckley graduated from East High School, and attended the University of Colorado.

OBITUARIES

Jersey, nine grandchildren; twenty-four great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Knight's son, James Newman, 36

LAS VEGAS — James "Jimmy" Newman, 36, the eldest son of R&B singer Gladys Knight was found dead in his home on July 13. No report was given as to the cause of his death. Newman was his mother's martyr.

Farmer, Civil Rights pioneer

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. — Civil Rights pioneer James S. Farmer died on July 9 of diabetes at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Va. He was 79. Farmer had a path for non-violent protest to dismantle segregation and served alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in many of his battles against the same issues. Farmer was one of the founders C.O.R.E. (Congress of Racial Equality). Last year, President Clinton presented Farmer with the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

Prayer Corner

"Cast thy burdens upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee."

Psalm 55:22

Elisha's servant got up early one morning and when he looked around, a host of enemies had surrounded the city. He was scared to death.

So, Elisha tried to comfort him by telling him not to fear. Obviously that didn't work.

So Elisha prayed and asked the Lord to open the servant's eyes — then the servant saw horses and chariots of fire (placed there by God as a defense) around Elisha.

Sometimes, all we can see is that we're surrounded by the enemy (on the job, confusion in the home, whatever) like Elisha's servant saw. God would like for us to "open" our eyes, and look to His Word, and like David did say, "The Lord is on my side and I will not fear what man can do unto me" (Psalm 118:6).

We are our biggest enemy because sometimes we walk by sight! Elisha looked beyond the enemy and saw God! So must we — He's always there!

This daily inspiration is courtesy of the Alliance of Black Lucent Employees, Garden State Chapter

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Local Briefs

Tucker convalescing at Beth Israel Hospital

TRENTON — Assemblyman Donald Tucker (D-Newark) is convalescing at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark after being stricken by an attack of high blood pressure on Friday night. Tucker, who also serves on the Newark City Council, has been prescribed rest by doctors and there is no estimation of when he will be released from the hospital. Tucker sits on the Assembly Local Government and Housing Committee and also serves as a member of the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission.

Newark students prepare work to save the Meadowlands

Newark — Students at Camden Middle Model Technology School embark on a two-week summer camp where they will study land formations and the animal habitat, and devise a proposal to create pathways linking original meadows in the Hackensack Meadowslands for the use of animals and people. Fifths and sixth graders will work under the instruction of Rutgers University's Center for Information Management, Integration, and Connection (CMIC) on the project, which is sponsored by the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission (CMDC). Satellite images of the area produced by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and beamed to CMIC will be the basis for information used by students.

Freeholders hold a forum on city improvements

ELIZABETH — The commitment for progress shared by the County of Union and the City of Elizabeth is the focus of the latest "Freeholders Forum" presented by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Freeholder Chairman Nicholas P. Scutari and Mayor I. Christian Bollwage discuss how the city and County are promoting economic development, job creation, education and improvements health care with innovative, cost-effective programs and services. "With programs and initiatives like Downtown Union County, a Mobile Immunization Clinic, Project Pocket Parks and Access 2000, the Freeholders have made a special commitment to working with the County's 21 municipalities," said Scutari, a Linden resident.

Elizabeth has come a long way in the past six years: crime and unemployment are down and job-creation and economic development are up. Part of our success is due to our cooperation and partnership with the 9-0 Democratic Freeholder Board," Bollwage said.

Anyone wanting more information or to comment about "Freeholders Forum" can call the Office of Public Information at (908) 327-4746.

Volunteers sought for rape crisis center

ELIZABETH — The Union County Rape Crisis Center at 300 North Avenue East in Westfield is looking for potential volunteers to assist sexual assault survivors, their families and significant others, announced May P. Rociole of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and liaison to the Union County Commission on the Status of Women.

Volunteer trainees will receive approximately 40 hours of training addressing the different types of sexual assault and traumatic reactions of survivors and family members. The legal and medical aspects of sexual assault will also be covered. Volunteer training classes will be held from 6:30 to 10 p.m. on September 28 and 30 as well as October 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 and November 4, 9, 16, 18. The Rape Crisis Center, a program under the Department of Human Services, Division of Planning, provides free and confidential services for survivors of sexual assault, their friends and family members in Union County. To become a volunteer at the Rape Crisis Center, to schedule an interview or for information on volunteer work or the services of the Center, please call 908-233-7273 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Summer heat and power outages

NEWARK — While we all understand why power goes out when a car accident breaks a utility pole or when a falling branch pulls down electrical wires, the outages from the July 4th heat wave were of a different variety. The vast majority of the outages were the result of local transformers tripping. In fact, nearly 600 transformers tripped during the heat wave in the PSE&G service territory (out of more than 315,000). At this point PSE&G dispatches a troubleshooter to the unit. The troubleshooter responds to its emergency overload position, which allows it to carry 20 kVA. During the July 4th heatwave, roughly one-third of the units were able to return to service with this extra bit of capacity.

Beta Alpha Omega honors its best and brightest

NEWARK — Beta Alpha Omega chapter, Newark, of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. recently awarded the Ruth B. Watts and Mae C. Jemison scholarships to nine recipients at its annual scholarship and community service award Jazz Brunch. The chapter awarded \$15,000 in scholarships. The recipients included the following students: Remy Foulke, Zandra Haywood, Naimah Campbell, Rabiah Torian, University High, Iddell Brown, Chivine Duru, Weequahic High; Vanessa Lee, Central High; and Nneoma Onyegbule, West Side High. The Una M. Janifer Award went to Andrea Thighe for having the highest grade point average in the undergraduate chapter, Gamma Zeta. The Marion B. Hebbons Undergraduate Award went to Angelique Beckles for the most improved student. Greetings were extended by Sylvia Cyrus, president of the chapter. Gloria H. Dickinson, national secretary presented a proclamation to the chapter on behalf of the and international president, Norma S. White. The chapter also received a proclamation from the North Atlantic Regional Director, C. Edith Booker. Community service awards were presented to the following community leaders: Congresswoman Donald M. Payne, 10th District New Jersey, Reverend



Pictured at top [l-r]: Vanessa Lee, Zandra Howard of Central High School, Zandra Haywood of University High School, Chivine Duru of Weequahic High School, Rabiah Torian and Remy Foulke of University High School, Iddell Brown of Weequahic High School, Naimah Campbell of University High School, and Nneoma Onyegbule of West Side High School. At bottom [l-r]: Winifred Walton, vice-president of Alpha Kappa Sorority, Inc., Ella Rainey, Sylvia Cyrus, president of Beta Alpha Omega Chapter and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Kathy Brown-Bragg, co-chairman of the scholarship committee.

Dr. Charles E. Thomas, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Newark; Averil Jones, Pediatrics Nurse Manager for the Family Health Center;

who accepted the award for the Children's Hospital of New Jersey, Newark; Beth Israel Medical Center, (Reach Out And Read Program)

Elizabeth's "I Care" Campaign goes door to door

ELIZABETH — As part of ongoing efforts to reach out into the community, mayor Chris Bollwage today announced the creation of a ten-person Constituent Services Taskforce that will go door to door through the City distributing government information and speaking with residents about their neighborhood and quality of life issues.

The workers will distribute a packet to all residents that includes important governmental phone numbers, voter registration forms, and a map of the City, and they will ask residents for

their neighborhood and quality of life issues, such as litter, tree stump removal, and noise.

"The taskforce will record residents input on how we can best work as partners in improving our community and quality of life," Bollwage said. "Their responses will help serve as a blueprint to further revitalize Elizabeth."

The Task Force, consisting of eight young adults and two supervisors, will attempt to walk up to as many doors in Elizabeth as possible throughout the

entire summer, between the hours of 5-6:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

The taskforce workers will be wearing blue caps stating "I Care About Elizabeth" and white T-shirts, with blue letters stating "Mayor Chris Bollwage's Constituent Services."

The Mayor's Constituent Taskforce program is the latest in a series of community outreach efforts by the Mayor. Last month, the Mayor announced the Traveling City Hall community coffee program in which he and City Directors help set up meet-

ings at residents' homes after work to discuss any issues or governmental programs.

The Mayor has already declared 1999 to be the "Year of the Senior" and has held more than two dozen meetings with various senior citizen groups throughout Elizabeth.

Last year, the Mayor focused on youth through the expansion of health services, and after school programs for teens, and announced the creation of a "Youth Advisory" Taskforce that meets with them on public policy issues.

The Mayor has also declared 1999 to be the "Year of the Senior" and has held more than two dozen meetings with various senior citizen groups throughout Elizabeth.

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Plainfield school's reach an agreement

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Board of Education and the Plainfield Education Association (P.E.A.), representing teachers and support staff, said recently they reached an agreement on a new three-year contract that began July 1, 1999.

The union membership ratified the contract last month by a vote of 480 yes votes to 145 no votes. The Board of Education adopted the contract at its business meeting on June 29.

The contract includes salary increases of 3.9 percent over the first year and 3.95 percent in the two remaining years of the contract, a program for staff development and new language for influencing student achievement.

Last year the school district and the P.E.A. settled on a one-year contract that included a salary increase of 3.5 percent. The union has 567 members including teachers and support staff, which consist of clerical and teacher assistants, bus drivers, secretaries, custodians and maintenance employees. Negotiations on the new contract began in January of this year.

"We are gratified that we were able to reach an agreement as teachers and other staff were leaving for the summer vacation," Dr. Larry Leverett, superintendent of schools, said. This means that when the teaching staff returns in the fall, we will be able to focus on classroom instruction and helping students to reach high academic standards," he said.

The union and the Board of Education will also cooperate in providing professional development for the staff. In the 2000-2001 school year, the Board of Education will provide at least 6 hours of professional development.

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CityLife

Fine Arts

New Community Fine Arts collection exhibit

"Spreading the Word," an exhibition of selected works from the fine arts collection of New Community Corporation, will be on display July 13 through August 30 in The Atrium Gallery of St. Joseph Plaza, 233 West Market Street, Newark. The public is invited to view the exhibit at no charge weekdays from 9 to 5. A public reception will be held on Tuesday, July 20 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. to celebrate the exhibit, which features paintings, drawings and prints collected by New Community Corporation (NCC) founder Msgr. William J. Linder both here in the United States and during his travels abroad. Music will be furnished by the Omega Jazz Ensemble of Newark Arts High. The exhibition was curated by Caryl Henry, NCC visual arts coordinator as part of the NCC Community Arts Program under the direction of Chase Jackson. NCC is head-quartered at St. Joseph Plaza, which is also home to The Priory Restaurant and The Atrium, which serves as a venue for jazz and other live entertainment, lectures and art exhibitions.



SPREADING THE WORD

July 13 through August 30, 1999
The Atrium, St. Joseph Plaza



Featured in the "Spreading the Word" series. Czecho-slovakia, batik.

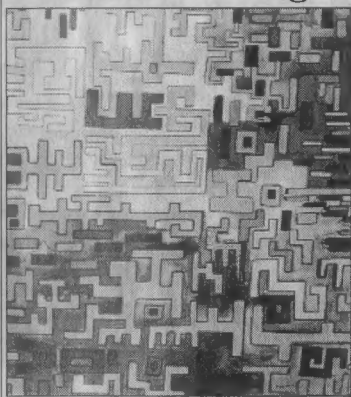


Green Market Square. Tokaba Lythich. South Africa, watercolor.



Fishing Boat. Vincent. Spain, oil on canvas.

Plainfield local artists present: Grace and Strength



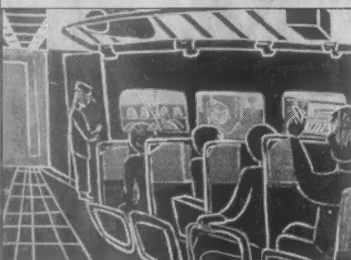
W.R. 405
Lydia R. Watson

From now through August 31, 1999 located at The Plainfield Health Center 1700 Myrtle Avenue will showcase the works of an African-American trio of local artists: J.B. Brown of No. Plainfield, Mina Robertson of Piscataway and Lydia R. Watson of Plainfield. This art event has been made possible in part by a Minigrant from Plainfield Cultural & Heritage Commission and a Heart grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Newark Museum celebrating 25 years



Marie Sturken, *Beginnings-Endings II*, 1996.
Handmade paper, 30 x 30 inches



Idaherna Williams, *Tickets*.
Wood block print 15 1/2 x 20 inches

Newark—The Newark Museum will present the exhibition Silver Anniversary Selections from the printmaking Council of New Jersey, in celebration of the council's 25-year history. On view at The Newark Museum from July 14 through September 26, the juried exhibition represents 22 New Jersey artists with 31 prints, including figurative and mixed-media abstract works. Visitors to the Museum will see works created by a variety of techniques including woodcuts, etchings, photography, monoprints, lithography, drypoint and hand made paper. Members whose works are featured in the exhibition represent communities throughout New Jersey, including Paul Bonelli, Wall; Zhiyuan Cong, Pompton Lakes; Francesca DeMasi, Chatham; Stephen Fox, Annandale; Diana Gonzalez, Gandolft; Highland Park; Clarence Mathew, Montclair; Janice Metzger, Westfield; Margaret Murphy, Jersey City; Nancy Ego, Nikkal, Tenafly; Takayo Noda, New York City; Florence Puterman, Selinsgrove, Pa.; Marie Sturken, Princeton; George Taylor, Somerset; Ann Williams, Madison; and Idaherna Williams, Princeton.

CityNet 2000

Declare your independence.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

— Declaration of Independence

As City News Publications Inc., rightfully takes a place in the new millennium we proclaim an abrupt exaltation of the evil from our nations past. The horrific voices of discrimination, racism, sexism, medical disparities, and the miseducation of generations will not be welcomed in our illustrious 21st Century. — We do declare.

We hereby, proclaim our independence from any and all negative factors which have infiltrated our communities. We invite you to celebrate our freedom and reap from the seeds that we can harvest together. CityNet 2000 will lead the way as the drum major with a revolutionary 16-page weekly resource library all about our communities. From Paterson to Asbury Park, City News Publications will serve as the community center which unites the gospel of the church with the reformation of the education system; the voting drives in the political arena to the accumulation of wealth in urban communities. CityNet 2000 will truly reflect the spirit of the city and you are vital in keeping this spirit alive.

- If you are a thriving business in New Jersey or New York, tell us your story.
- If you direct a mentoring program which prepares our youth for the corporate world, tell us your story.
- If you are heading a research project to cure an epidemic, tell us your story.
- If you are a rising athlete, with the desire and discipline to train hard, tell us your story.
- If you are a religious center rebuilding our communities faith, tell us your story.
- If you are being treated unjust, unrighteously or inhumane, tell us your story.

"In order to lift ourselves and our communities, isn't it past time that we stopped letting the majority-community press speak for us and shape images of ourselves," stated William Reed, publisher of "Who's Who in Black Corporate America." "Too few of us have positive self-image in things black. Those that do have to organize processes to link-up black media and press with your families, neighborhoods and church congregations. These groups need to subscribe and read black newspapers every week. Utilizing our own media will help our self-image and social development."

So "Up You Mighty Race," for we will move forward by any means necessary because City News has a dream and you, the people of New Jersey, the heart of the community, is what will keep it alive.

Make sure your voice is heard and your stories are being told. Become a part of CityNet 2000. City News is depending on you to funnel information to us, so that we may curtail economic strife's, educational mishaps, and political misrepresentation.

I declare my commitment to the growth and development of our black and urban communities in the new millennium.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return to City News Independence, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 or fax to (908) 753-1036.

HeartBeat

July 21 — July 27, 1999

City News B3

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

NUTLEY — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Nutley Chapter of the American Red Cross, 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital will host a support group meeting for those affected by prostate cancer at the hospital's conference room, 5:30 p.m. (732) 937-6505.

PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County and Plainfield will hold a blood drive at the Greater Union County 4300 N. 10th St. 9 a.m. (908) 756-6414.

CLARK — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Clark Fire Department, 6 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

NEWARK — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the VNA, 4300 N. 10th St. 9 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

MONTCLAIR — The Eastern School of Acupuncture and Traditional Medicine holds a open house, 7 p.m. (973) 746-8717.

UNION — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Union Hospital, 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

WAYNE — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Wayne General Hospital, 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

UNION — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Union Elks Lodge, 10 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

WESTFIELD — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Westfield Rescue Squad, 10 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

OLD BRIDGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at St. Anthony's Church, 9 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

MONDAY, JULY 26

SUMMIT — Pathways and the American Cancer Society will sponsor a free workshop called "Looking Good, Feeling Better" at the Valley Episcopal Church, 10 a.m. (908) 277-8663.

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University (NJCU) Women's Center will hold a group discussion on self-esteem at the Student Union Building, 4:30 p.m. 201-202-3189.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a class in early pregnancy, 7 p.m. (732) 351-7200.

NEWARK — Columbus Hospital will sponsor a blood drive at the hospital's auditorium, 9 a.m. (973) 268-3674.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital's Regional Cancer Center hosts a food preparation demonstration beneficial to cancer patients, 1 p.m. (201) 853-3166.

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center will hold a support group meeting for breast cancer survivors at the hospital's conference room, 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital will host a support group meeting for parents who have children in intensive care unit (NICU) at the hospital's intensive care nursery, 7 p.m. (732) 745-8900.

BOUND BROOK — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Masonic Eastern Star Lodge, 4 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital will host a support group meeting for women living with breast cancer at the hospital's conference room, 6 p.m. (732) 745-6680.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

SOMERSET — St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick will host a support group meeting for adults living with diabetes at the Somer's America Store, 7:30 p.m. (732) 745-8900.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center will hold a support group meeting for those suffering from breast cancer at the hospital's conference room, 6 p.m. (201) 915-2000.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital will host a support group meeting for couples sharing a pregnancy and living an effort at the first floor cafeteria, 7 p.m. (732) 745-8900.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

JERSEY CITY — The Jersey City Medical Center will hold a support group meeting for those surviving breast cancer at the hospital's conference room, 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

Celebrating the gift of life



JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Mayor Bret Schundler (second from right) recently declared "Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week" in Jersey City to raise awareness of the topic — especially among African American citizens and other minority communities. For their efforts to boost and enhance lives, Mayor Schundler lauded the efforts of the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network (The Sharing Network), the federally certified, state-approved organ/tissue procurement organization in New Jersey. Dr. Dorian Wilson, Medical Director of The Sharing Network (center back row) accepted the honor from the Mayor Schundler. They were joined by Carlos (third from left) and Maria Perez (center front row), a Hudson County donor family. When the Perez' tragically lost their 18-year-old son, Robert, a promising William Paterson University student, the couple made the courageous decision to honor their late son's memory by giving the gift of hope. Patricia Jackson (third from the right) and Khalil Tahir (right) of the Jersey City chapter of the NAACP, as well as Joan Lacey (second from left) and Thomas Cannon (left) of The Sharing Network also participated. The NAACP chapter recently formed a partnership with The Sharing Network to increase organ donor awareness within the African American community. "Within the African American community, along with other minority communities of Jersey City and Northern New Jersey, the situation is, even more critical because of the shortage of people who sign up to be donors," said Schundler. "When a conscientious and compassionate person signs an organ donor card, it could literally mean the gift of life for a number of his or her fellow New Jerseyans who are in need. I urge all Jersey City citizens to help by signing an organ donor card."

Howard University Hospital ranks among America's best hospitals

WASHINGTON — U.S. News and World Report's 10th Annual Guide to "America's Best Hospitals," recently listed Howard University Hospital among the nation's top 50 hospitals in the treatment of Rheumatology and Hormonal Disorders.

The guide is published as a resource for consumers who are seeking maximum care in the diagnosis, treatment and management of a difficult medical problem.

"We are extremely proud of the excellent medical services delivered in these two areas, which are reflective of the overall quality of care," said Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert. "Howard University Hospital has delivered excellent health care since 1862, and in doing so has clearly distinguished itself as a pioneer in research, an innovator in the delivery of medical services and a champion of community health care initiatives."

The hospital, the first to identify the red blood cell as a model for insulin receptors, ranked 19th among the nation's top 50 hospitals in the treatment of hormonal disorders, rheumatology and glandular malfunctions produce conditions such as diabetes.

In the Hormonal Disorders category, the Howard received a perfect score of seven in the technology category, and posted a nurse-to-bed ratio of 1:24. Dr. Adrian Hosen, chair of medicine, says the Hospital is extremely proud of its record in managing the disease, and cites integrated medical care and outreach as leading factors in the Hospital's success. Howard ranked 40th among the nation's top 50 hospitals in the treatment of rheumatology. Rheumatologists help arthritis and others suffering from inflammatory

disorders. In this specialty area, the hospital received a perfect score of three in the discharge planning category, indicating the delivery of key services including patient education, case management and patient representatives. The hospital's rheumatology specialty also received a perfect technology score of 5, and posted a registered nurse-to-bed ratio of 1:24. Patient representatives serve as advocates for patients who require specific medical or social services.

In both categories, Howard University Hospital was cited for having an emergency trauma center as well as its membership in the Council of Teaching Hospitals in fact. Howard University Hospital is the nation's only teaching hospital owned and operated by an Historically Black College or University.

According to Dr. Floyd Malveaux, vice president for Health Affairs and dean of the University's College of Medicine, "Howard University Hospital's approach to excellence is grounded in rigorous, comprehensive medical research and education with an emphasis on quality patient care and compassion. Clearly, these values extend well into the realm of quality medical service delivery at Howard University Hospital."

According to hospital CEO Sherman McCoy, "the hospital's continuing investment in state-of-the-art technology and its commitment to excellence in human resources enables us to deliver the very highest quality healthcare and medical services."

The 1999 survey ranks the nation's top 50 hospitals in 12 medical specialties and the top three percent in four other specialties. All were assessed using a three-part

method that combines reputation, peer review and a set of other medical criteria. For more information on the

survey, check the U.S. News and World Report web site, www.usnews.com.



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Artz Wednesday

July 21 — July 27, 1999

Mya does Lilith Fair and is set to drop her sophomore album



Mya

NEW YORK—The ghetto superstar is on the rise again! The multi-platinum R&B songstress Mya is set to join artist like Monica, and Deborah Cox at Sarah McLachlan's Lilith Fair. Mya is set to release her sophomore album this fall which is sure to be the hottest thing on the market. Check out the following Mya tour dates with Lilith Fair and be on the look out for her new album:

Date:	Venue:	City:
August 8th	Jones Beach	New York, NY
August 7th	PNC Banks Art Center	Holmdel, NJ
August 8th	PNC Banks Art Center	Holmdel, NJ

"Jazz at the Plaza"



Frank Foster

EAST ORANGE—The "Jazz at the Plaza" concert series will celebrate its 10th year anniversary, Tuesday July 20, 1999 in City Hall Plaza, with a performance from Frank Foster and his band Swing Plus Band. "The Jazz at the Plaza" concert series has become a much anticipated jazz series in this area. Internationally renowned jazz artists have graced the plaza stage for a decade, bringing with them every nuance and interpretation of the jazz genre.

EAST ORANGE SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUESDAY, JULY 27

Jazz at the Plaza, Farmers and Vendor Market
Featuring: Norman Hedmon & Tropicque Claude
Acuna
Post: TBA
Raindate: Inland Baptist Church 113 Elmwood Avenue

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

Jazz at the Plaza, Farmers and Vendor Market
Featuring: Vanessa Rubin Bill White 350 Project
Post: TBA
Raindate: Inland Baptist Church 113 Elmwood Avenue

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

Jazz at the Plaza, Farmers and Vendor Market
Featuring: Fostine Dizon Zal
Post: TBA
Raindate: Inland Baptist Church 113 Elmwood Avenue

Farmers Market continues every Tuesday until August 31, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Poetry performance begins at 6 p.m. Music performance begins at 6:30 p.m.

The Sweet City Concert Series

NEWARK, NJ—The Newark Downtown District, Newark's special improvement district (SID) is pleased to present a series of free lunch time music performances, part of the Sweet City Concert Series, starting on Friday, July 16th and running through August 27th. The concerts will take place from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Military Park, at the corner of Broad Street and Raymond Boulevard in Newark.

The artists scheduled to perform, rain or shine, are as follows:

July 23	Jackie Jones
July 26	Line Drive
August 6	Linda Isenmae and the Dixie Cats
August 13	Vince Serrati and the Platinum II Jazz Band
August 20	Gonella International
August 27	Black Widow Blue Band



Jackie Jones

Nicole Yarling defies definition

To a certain extent, Nicole Yarling defies definition. Her myriad of personal influences have created a product that begs attention across the board. No one genre can keep her.

Her chosen instruments are voice, violin, and fiddle (in that order). Nicole is a rich velvet voice embroidered with technical skill and personality to boot! She is a rising star in the jazz community who, like many others, has been at it for years.

Born and raised in and around Brooklyn, New York, a musical household laid the groundwork for Nicole's career. She was inspired very early by her father, who plays jazz organ and piano, and her father's records, which all made an impact on Nicole's musical tastes.

Artists such as Ella Jones, M. Davis, Stuff Smith, J.J. Johnson and Sonny Rollins, to The Beatles and Motown classics were in regular rotation. As early as age nine, Nicole would "jam" on the violin with her father. It was then that she caught "the bug" to perform for a living.

Nicole's musical excursions have brought about stints with Dizzy Gillespie, and three years on tour as a featured soloist with Jimmy Buffet (1991-94). She also participated in Buffet's platinum-selling CD, "Fruit Cakes" (MCA), and then went on to do 8 worldwide tours with her own project, Little Nicky and the Slicks.

Nicole's notable talent has all virtue all its own, but it would be remiss not to mention the late great vocal legend, Joe Williams. Joe "who covered" Nicole through a series of events, and adopted her as his very own project.

He recognized this diamond in the rough, gleaming through, and began to invest in seeing Nicole rise to the top. "Joe Williams Presents Nicole Yarling at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild" was born as a result, and it was released July 4th.

Some would say it was a shame, wish of Joe Williams to see Nicole succeed. Joe intended to escort Nicole to the highest limos, much in the same way Count Basie did for him in the late fifties.

It can be boldly stated, however, that Ms. Yarling's talent has a strength all its own, to forge ahead on Joe's intended path. Joe Williams' torch certainly won't die out, as it has been graciously passed along to one Nicole Yarling, or at Joe might have said, the "Darling Ms. Yarling."

Freedom is an underlying theme in Nicole's life and therefore an underlying theme in her debut CD Joe Williams Presents. As a diverse selection of tunes that not only represent "freedom" in lyrical content, but



Freedom is the underlying theme to the talented Nicole Yarling's debut CD which was released July 4 with the help of the late jazz singer, Joe Williams.



Joe Williams

own voice I don't ever have to be something that I'm not to be successful. It is fitting that her debut with the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild was released on Independence Day! In her own words: "I think about freedom a lot. In my travels I've met and talked to people who have very little in the way of material things, but are some of the happiest people I know. There are several kinds of freedom to me. The best kind of freedom is mental freedom, because it can never be taken away. Incorporating the free element of jazz is important to me because it is improvisation in its truest form—spontaneous."

Joe Williams Presents Nicole Yarling at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild is a breath of fresh air for the jazz community. It contains performances both of historical and musical value.

Nicole is scheduled to tour nationally behind her recording in the Fall, and is sure to make her way into the hearts and ears of many.

Yarling's vocals and violin soar joyfully above an excellent rhythm section, inventively scatting and stretching syllables, speeding and slowing tempos and betraying what seems an almost instinctual creativity.

Get back to your "roots" with Aswad



only British group to record and/or perform a concert with several top Jamaican artists, including Burning Spear, Bob Marley, Peter Tosh, and Bunny Wailer (Bunny, in fact, was known to refer to Aswad as the "Young Wailers").

The two first graced national attention in 1976 when their debut release, "Back to Africa," hit the #1 slot on the U.K. Reggae Charts.

After a series of successful singles and albums on Island and CBS, Aswad earned international acclaim with their reggae version of "Don't Turn Around," a song previously covered by both Luther Ingram and Tina Turner.

"Don't Turn Around," released on New in 1988, sailed to the #1 slot on the U.K. National Charts and was the most-played record on French radio (A similar pop version of the song was simply an international hit for Swedish pop act Ace of Base).

The U.S. saw Aswad's recordings have found them joining forces with a variety of artists including Dennis Brown, Maxi Priest, Hugh Massey, Steely & Cleve, Shabba Ranks, and T. & Robb's Taxi Gang.

"Roots Revival" reunites Aswad with classic songs from the reggae song book including "Custody" from The Wailers, "Bambie Boom Bam Bam" (1998 official National Hill Carnival Anthem) and "Peace Thru" from The Gullymen.

The album also includes several new songs including the first single "Follow" plus "The Best Times Of Our Lives" which feature vocals from the reggae superstar Chubb Men who is currently enjoying Top 5 success in France and a cover of "Invisible Sun," a collaboration with Shabba Ranks. The album also includes several new songs including the first single "Follow" plus "The Best Times Of Our Lives" which feature vocals from the reggae superstar Chubb Men who is currently enjoying Top 5 success in France and a cover of "Invisible Sun," a collaboration with Shabba Ranks. The album also includes several new songs including the first single "Follow" plus "The Best Times Of Our Lives" which feature vocals from the reggae superstar Chubb Men who is currently enjoying Top 5 success in France and a cover of "Invisible Sun," a collaboration with Shabba Ranks.

Aswad, one of Britain's best-loved reggae bands for over two decades and 15 albums, released their latest album worldwide, "Roots Revival," last month.

After 15 albums and two decades on the music scene, Aswad remains one of Britain's best-loved reggae bands. Originally led by the trio of Bimadey Forde (on vocals and rhythm guitar), Drumme Zeb (on vocals and drums), and Tony Gad (on bass), Aswad is renowned among reggae fans for their rich melodies and compelling harmonies woven over hard rhythmic tracks and inspired horn riffs.

Aswad (a name derived from the Arabic word for "black") was founded in the 1970s by contemporaries Mutabba The Chinnorians and Black State, the band was among the first home grown acts to prove that Caribbean music could successfully take root in Europe.

In its early years, Aswad was the



Billboard

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents the award-winning musical "Olive!" 12:30 p.m. - 1:55 p.m. GO-NJ-PAC.

MONTCLAIR — TheaterFest Broadway on the Hill presents the production of Cy Coleman's Tony-Award musical "Bluesman." 8 p.m. (973) 655-5112.

BROOKLYN, NY — The Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) presents the award-winning musical "Olive!" 12:30 p.m. - 1:55 p.m. GO-NJ-PAC.

QUEENS, NY — Lisa/Arts Productions presents the AT&T Latino Arts Festival. Rushing Meadows Corona Park. Call (718) 750-0064 for time and information.

NEW BRUNSWICK — Johnson & Johnson Art Gallery presents an art exhibit featuring the works of Betty Quinlan. Call (732) 524-3698 for time and information.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Blue Note Jazz Club presents jazz musician Harbin Mann. 8 p.m. (212) 475-8592.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

NEW YORK — The Lincoln Center for Performing Arts, Inc. presents the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, part of the Midsummer Night Swing Concert Series. Call (212) 676-6766 for time and information.

BLOOMFIELD — The Essex County Park System presents the "Big Band Night" featuring the Harry James Orchestra at Brookdale Park, part of Essex County Summer Concert Series. 7:30 p.m. (973) 268-3500.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Rutgers SummerFest '99 presents the Rutgers Festival Orchestra featuring the Rutgers Music Center. 8 p.m. (732) 932-7591.

NEWARK — The Newark Downtown District and The Newark Municipal Council presents jazz singer Jackie McKissack at Military Park, part of the Sweet City Summer Luncelunch Concert Series. 12 p.m. (973) 739-1800.

NEWARK — The City of Newark Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs presents female vocalists Betty Du Chantier at Washington Park, part of Friday Evening Swing Concert Series. 5:30 p.m. (973) 733-6454.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

NEW YORK — The Brooklyn Academy of Music presents film exhibit on the work of acclaimed director Spike Lee and showing of the movie "The God Game." 1:30 p.m. (718) 636-4154.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents Opera Festival of New Jersey's production of "Don Giovanni." 8 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. GO-NJ-PAC.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

NEWARK — The City of Newark Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs in conjunction with the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs presents New Jersey Gospel Parade of Stars featuring Vickie Winans and The Mighty Clouds of Joy. Weequahic Sunset Park. 1:30 p.m. (973) 733-8054.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Rutgers SummerFest '99 presents the Rutgers Festival Orchestra featuring the Rutgers Music Center. 8 p.m. (732) 932-7591.

MONDAY, JULY 26

NEW YORK — The Blue Note Jazz Club presents jazz musician Sal Salvadori and band Crystal Image. Call (212) 475-8592 for time and information.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

BROOKLYN, NY — The Brooklyn Academy of Music presents legendary R&B group The Bar-Kays at Fort Greene Park, part of BAM and City Parks Foundation Concerts of Park Series. 7 p.m. (212) 360-8290.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

NEW YORK — Annual free outdoor jazz, calypso, R&B, funk, Latin concert by Keith Marks & Company. The Patio at Golda Meir Plaza. 12-15 p.m. (973) 374-8972.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

ENGLEWOOD — The John Harms Arts Center presents R&B legend Donna Winick. 8 p.m. (201) 567-3000.

CHATHAM — The Summit Chorale presents the Diamond Hill Summer Chorus at Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township. 8 p.m. (973) 782-8485.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

ATLANTIC CITY — The Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Authority presents the Atlantic City Soul Funk Weekend. A weekend of music and dance with the funk sounds of the 70s and 80s. Sandcastle Stadium through August 1. Call (609) 340-5957 for time and information.

NEWARK — The City of Newark Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs presents singer Joe Tiano & The Flames at Washington Park, part of Friday Evening Swing Concert Series. 5:30 p.m. (973) 733-6454.

BLOOMFIELD — Essex County Park System presents jazz legend Chuck Margone at Brookdale Park, part of the Essex County Free Summer Concert Series. 7:30 p.m. (973) 268-3500.

Anheuser-Busch awards young talents at Def Comedy Jam



NEW YORK — The Bud Light Def Comedy Jam chose two aspiring comedians at this year's talent search showcase. Rasheed Thurmond won the New York competition; and Ana "Peaches" McGhee was the New Jersey winner.

Both of the promising talents received a Bud Light Def Comedy Jam leather jacket and the opportunity to open up for the Bud Light Comedy tour, held at the Beacon Theatre in New York.

Pictured from left to right: Wellington Faulkner, Anheuser-Busch representative; Rasheed Thurmond, New York winner of the Bud Light Def Comedy Jam Talent Search; A.J. Johnson, host of the Bud Light Def Comedy Jam tour '99 and actor (Friday: How to Be a Player); Ana "Peaches" McGhee, New Jersey winner of the Bud Light Def Comedy Jam Talent Search; and Walter Van Eyken, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., geographic marketing manager.

The art of funny, a la Bob Sumner



Bob Sumner

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Bet. Ask Bob Sumner, producer of the ubiquitous HBO Def Comedy Jam what's his blood type, and he'll throw the medical world into a frenzy because he'd have to say "E" for entertainment.

From the days when he sat as a kid with his parents in the audience of the Apollo Theater on Wednesday's amateur night, to his older brothers being musicians, while his father managed a singing group, and his mother worked in the recording studio at RCA, Sumner like a theologian called to preach was summoned to the entertainment industry.

And he's bringing side-splitting comedy back to New Jersey at Brokers Entertainment Complex in Edison, where he'll present the return of Def Comedy Thursday's hosted by Talent, who appeared in the motion picture Sunset Park.

On a one year hiatus, Def Comedy will kick-off on July 22, with comedians J.B. Smoove, Honest John, Jay Lamount, and Marvin Dixon.

But don't be surprised if you see Chris Rock in the house, because Sumner, a graduate of Seton Hall University, has got it like that.

"We're coming back with a vengeance. The big names will be there. Chris Rock might pop in. My rooms are celebrity driven," said the Union resident.

"He's (Chris Rock) worked on my show. He's one of the great people in comedy. It's not

just about the person you see on stage. The Chris Rock's and Steve Harvey's keep it real all the time. He's a special one," said Sumner.

Indeed, from the East coast to the West coast, Sumner, 38, has worked with all the neo-medical greats, many of whom he personally set on the path to stardom.

"We're coming back with a vengeance."

Realizing the need to showcase the wealth of black talent out there, Sumner, while working as the assistant to the producer of Def Jam Records, conceived the idea of Def Comedy Jam. He shopped the idea to HBO executives, who at first were leery.

But they also were wise enough to know that Sumner was onto something after he personally took them to black comedy venues, where comedians like Bill Bellamy, Bernie Mac, Steve Harvey and Joe Torry were performing.

What started out as a two-show pilot turned into 72 shows and let's just say the rest is history.

Sumner, along with his partner Bill Diamond have joined forces and formed the Diamond and Sumner Group — a sports and entertainment consulting company, and one of their clients is former New York Knick, Charles Oakley, who is now with the Toronto Raptors.

Talent



J.B. Smoove



Honest John



Marvin Dixon



Jay Lamount

It's all good in 'The Wood'



Photo by D. Stevens
"The Wood," already showing in theaters, stars Tays Diggs (above), Omar Epps, Richard T. Jones, and Sean Jones.

By Lee Hubbard

(NNPA)—When Rick Farniyya moved from North Carolina to Inglewood, Calif. in the mid 1980s, he experienced a culture shock. He went from a conservative country atmosphere to a fast life of thier curis, gangs and K-Swiss tennis shoes. Despite this cultural shock, he was able to adjust and learn to appreciate the area as he grew up.

This is apparent in his film "The Wood," which opened in theaters July 16. The concept for the movie came up when a close friend of the filmmaker announced he was getting married.

Farniyya knew a reflection into his childhood would make a good film. So, he sat down with his former US film school professor Todd Boyd in the summer of 1997 at the Sundance Institute's screenwriters and directors lab session and the two developed the story and the script.

Set in the 1980s and moving to the present, "The Wood" stars Tays Diggs, Omar Epps, Richard T. Jones, and Sean Jones. It focuses on the wedding of Roland (Tays Diggs) and the surprise that Mike (Omar Epps) and Slim (Richard T. Jones) feel seeing their friend dressed in his tuxedo on the big day. The event also surprises Roland who walks out of his wedding a few hours before it takes place. Mike and Slim run across town to get a drunken

Roland who is laid out on his high school sweetheart's couch.

Central to the bond between the three men is the city of Inglewood, a predominantly Black middle class area near Los Angeles. It is home to a notorious Blood gang, and street life is often portrayed in the music of rappers like Mack 10. "It was important for me to reveal the Inglewood (in film) that I grew up in. It's a community that suffered from a lot of misconceptions and misrepresentations," said Farniyya.

Instead of focusing on the negative, the movie highlights all the good times that take place when you are growing up. This shift in Black films is signaling the start of a gradual shift taking place in Hollywood. "At any given time we only had one set of representation in film," Boyd said. "In the 1970s it was blackploitation, in the early 1980s it was Eddie Murphy and Cosby on television, and later in the 80s we had Spike and then the hood films," said Farniyya.

While "The Wood" and other movies seem to be breaking this mold, one of the things that have hampered Black films is the lack of marketing behind them. "The Wood" is breaking that mold. Farniyya and Boyd are also going across the country to promote it with the media. "The Wood is a movie that people will be able to relate to, since we have all had memories," said Farniyya.

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LEGALS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch, New Jersey intends to procure the following described services.

Placed Accounts with regard to the City of Long Branch accounts for a period of one year. Fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. Requested requirements, interest for award of contract, additional information regarding the terms and conditions of submission of proposals may be obtained by contacting the Housing Authority's Administrative Office, Garfield Court, P.O. Box 337, Long Branch, NJ 07740, during regular working hours or telephone (732) 223-2747 Ext. 115, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. only, Monday thru Friday. The deadline date for submission of proposals is August 4, 1999. Proposals must be received by 12:00 p.m. of the above date.

Randy Phillips, P.M.
Acting Executive Director
\$44.94

INVITATION FOR BIDS

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

FOR MAILBOX POSTAL EQUIPMENT

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (HANA) will receive sealed bids for the following Materials:

ON MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 1999 AT 10:00 A.M.

ONE (1) MAILBOX EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number and will be addressed and returned to the above address by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 500 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid Specifications for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of HANA at the said address. Telephone: (973) 273-5552.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of PL 1975 c.127 Affirmative Action Program.

The HANA reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The HANA reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsive bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the HANA.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

ROBERT GRAHAM

ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$88.45

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FROM QUALIFIED DEVELOPERS

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Copies of the Request For Proposals will be available from the CRDA offices beginning Wednesday, July 14, 1999. Proposals are required to arrive a mandatory pre-submission meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 21, 1999 at 2:00 P.M. at the offices of CRDA.

Proposals must be received by the CRDA by 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 3, 1999. No sealed proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to: Edward C. Gifford, Director of Housing Development, Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401. Tel: (609) 347-0500 Fax: (609) 347-2423

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- E. Fourth St. @ Plainfield Train Station
- Grove St. off W. Front St. at "Church"
- Madison Ave. & W. 4th St. (Unemployment Office)
- North Ave. @ Plainfield Post Office
- Park Ave. & Crescent Ave. @ Library
- Park Ave. & Seventh St. by Scott's Drug Store
- Park Ave. & 7th St. by Red Tower
- Rock Ave. off Myrtle St. at Blvd. Health Ctr.
- South Ave. & Terrell Rd. @ Drug Fair
- South Ave. & Hallow Village Plaza
- South Ave. & Leland Ave. @ Burger King
- South Ave. & Netherwood Train Station
- South Ave. @ "The House of Rock" Landmark
- W. Front St. @ White Star
- Watchung Ave. & E. Sixth St. @ YMCA
- Watchung Ave. & North Ave. @ P.M. Post Office
- Watchung Ave. & E. 2nd St. @ Corner store
- Watchung Ave. & E. Front St. @ Bus stop

NEWARK

- Bergen St. at Family Health Care Center
- Bergen St. at Exco Diner's Office Center
- Franklin St. off Broad St. at Main Post Office
- 124 Jersey St. & Cedar St. at Unemployment Office
- Market St. & Washington St. @ Bus Stop
- Market St. & Halsey St.
- Market St. & Alamy St. at Bus Stop
- Market St. & Duane St. @ Bus Stop
- MLK Blvd. & 13th St.
- Park Pl. at Travelodge Hotel
- Walnut St. off Broad St. (Immigration Bldg.)
- Washington Pl. at Washington Library
- University St. & New St. at University
- Washington Ave. & Meeker Ave.

JERSEY CITY

- Newark Ave. & Summit Ave. at Library
- Newark Ave. & Baldwin Ave.
- Newark Ave. at Justice Hall

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- Broadway St. at Dunkin Donuts at Cornerstone
- Broadway St. & Memorial Rd. at Petco/Cat Center
- Broadway St. & Route 10 at Unemployment Office
- Broadway St. & Madison Ave. at McDonalds
- Broadway St. at Hospital
- Broadway St. at "Last Corner"
- Dill Plaza & Crosby Pl. at Post Office
- Market St. & Cliff St. at McDonalds
- Market St. & Calumet Pl. at City Hall
- Market St. & Madison
- Market St. & Memorial Pl.

HACKENSACK

- Hudson St. at Administrative Office
- Main St. & Sussex St. at Court Plaza
- 186 Main St. after Railroad Track
- 241 Main St. & E. Salem St. at Bank
- 268 Main St. & Camden St. at Library
- State St. & Barette Pl. at Post Office
- 60 State St. & Sussex St. at Dept. of Labor

EAST ORANGE

- Central Ave. & Maple St. at Dunkin Donuts #1
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- Central Ave. & Hudson St. @ Dunkin Donuts #2
- Central Ave. & S. Harrison St.
- Central Ave. & Evergreen St.
- Main St. at Pomeroy Mills Dept. store
- Main St. at Doran
- Main St. & Lincoln St. at DMV
- Main St. & N. Essex
- Main St. at No. Mann
- Main St. & Cleveland St.
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- Springfield Ave. & Maple St.
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- Broad St. & Dickinson St. at McDonalds
- Broad St. & Railway Ave. at Court House
- Elmore Ave. & W. Grand Ave. at Dunkin Donuts
- George St. & DeRaff Pl. at Dunkin Donuts
- N. Broad St. & Rt. 27 at Post Office
- Railway Ave. at side of Court House
- Railway Ave. at Cultural Ctr. & Bus Stop

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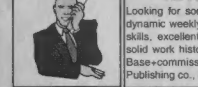
- Cleveland St. & Main St.
- Main St. (Post Office)
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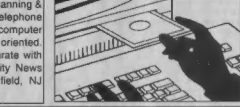
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REFERENCE # NJ-99-004-010
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DIRECTOR, 2 EDUCATION

Salary \$62,475.14 - \$84,833.00

Under the direction of the Assistant Commissioner, Division of Student Services, primary responsibilities include the administration of all state and federal program funding in the areas of bilingual education, equal education opportunity and gender equity. The director is also responsible for developing technical assistance training and monitoring systems for all school districts that implement bilingual education, equal education opportunity and gender equity programs. In coordination with senior staff, is responsible for the development of new policy in the areas of bilingual education, equal education opportunity and gender equity through the revision of administrative code and legislation. Works closely with the Holocaust Commission, State Advisory Committee on Bilingual Education and the Gender Equity Advisory Committee to propose recommendations for the improvement of policy and services to serve the targeted populations. Requirements: Master's degree from an accredited college or university in education or related field. Seven (7) years of professional experience in education experience including (4) years as an administrator or supervisor in the field of education. Experience in the areas of bilingual education, second language acquisition, gender equity and designation of public schools. Applicants who do not meet all of the stated requirements, but who believe they possess equivalent qualifications, are requested to submit written statements indicating how their background and experience qualify them for the position. A New Jersey certificate as a superior or administrator. Please forward resumes no later than July 30, 1999. Applications received after closing date will be considered if position is not filled. AACE

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REFERENCE # NJ-99-006-006
PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08623-0500

DIRECTOR 2, EDUCATION

Salary \$62,091.16 - \$85,606.76

Under the direction of the Assistant Commissioner, Division of Student Services, provides leadership to staff in the Office of Specialized Populations in coordinating and identifying a clear policy direction for a variety of programs which serve students of all ages who represent targeted population groups requiring customized services which includes: Title I, Homeless Education, Migrant Education, Even Start Family Literacy, Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program (CSR), Adult Education and Literacy and issuance of GED credentials. The director, Office of Specialized Populations, sets the goals, plans and implements the operations and evaluates the performance of various programs; coordinates with other program offices within the department and with other state agencies, as applicable, provides staff oversight, administrators and interprets federal and state laws and regulations applicable to the programs under management; directs the compilation and summarization of data for reports to senior management and other agencies; administrators and monitors the various program budgets. Requirements: Master's degree from an accredited college or university in education or related field. Seven (7) years of professional experience including (5) years in an administrative capacity. Certification as teacher or administrator. Please forward resumes no later than July 30, 1999. Applications received after closing date will be considered if position is not filled.

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HEA Scoop

The recent revelation that legendary basketball player Julius "Dr. J" Erving is the father of Wimbledon quarter-finalist Alexandra Stevenson was quite a stunner. When the story broke, Erving immediately denied its truth and many of his fans (including me) breathed a great sigh of relief. Little did we know that our relief would be so short-lived. A few days after the story broke, Erving broke down and admitted that he had fathered the world's burgeoning tennis phenom who at the time was enjoying a spectacular coming out party at the most prestigious tennis tournament. After closer examination, Stevenson's resemblance to Erving is striking and unmistakable. Also striking are the implications the controversy could have on the groupie scene. Sports groupies are an interesting lot. Sports writers don't like to talk about them too much lest they expose the very players which we are charged with covering. And since our coverage is greatly dependent upon the trust and confidence we cultivate in our subjects, the topic can be quite a sensitive issue. Nevertheless, groupies exist, and they're not going anywhere anytime soon. However, as a consequence of the Erving story, the goals and objectives of the modern day groupie may have changed. Historically, they have aggressively pursued athletes for their cash and affections or simply the thrill of spending time with someone famous. In this matter however, Samantha Stevenson, Alexandra's mother, wanted none of the above from Erving. Rather, her conduct, on-the-record statements, and manner in which she has single-mindedly dedicated her life to developing her child's athletic career suggest designs of a different sort. Stevenson appears to have desired Erving's blood. Not in a Bela Lugosi/Marilyn Manson way, but rather in a genealogical, Darwinist sense. Think about it if in the late 1970's early 1980's a woman set her mind on giving birth to a physically gifted athlete, at that time, there was no better candidate than Julius Erving who was then considered the world's finest basketball player. Stevenson, who during the period of her affair with Erving covered the Philadelphia 76ers as a freelance writer, couldn't have been better situated to seize upon the opportunity. Although no one knows the circumstances or details of the Stevenson/Erving relationship, it is clear that Stevenson exhibited a keen appreciation of the special bloodlines and athletic potential of her daughter. It has been reported that Stevenson enrolled her child into swimming and tennis lessons as soon as she grew large enough to hold a tennis racket. It has also been boasted that Stevenson would resort to friends that her child had the right stuff and was destined for greatness when she was a mere six year old. Few breeders of thoroughbred horses would engage in such hyperbolic prognostication. Yet, it appears that Ms. Stevenson may be seen Erving in a similar light, i.e. as a stud who could enrich the athletic bloodlines of her progeny. If this was in fact the scenario, Stevenson may represent a new type of groupie which gives rise to the need for athletes to guard against the seductions of themselves and their offspring. Maybe the Erving revelation will finally inspire athletes to become as shrewd and savvy as the groupies who pursue them.

Gregory Moore

E.O.'s Marcus Toney-El bringin' the noise at Adidas ABCD Camp

By Gregory Moore
Staff Writer

TEANECK— The annual Adidas All American basketball camp concluded its three-day scouting combine on July 10.

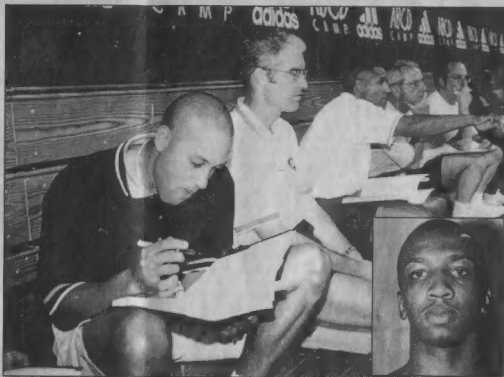
Although the camp attracted many nationally known players, including a few who will probably enter next summer's NBA, East Orange's Marcus Toney-El made news at the camp in more ways than one. The 6-6 185 pound Toney-El, a rising senior at Seton Hall Prep High School, first attracted attention by announcing that he would sign with the Seton Hall University Pirates.

Toney-El, who had considered Rutgers among several other colleges, cited his trust and faith in Pirate's head coach Tommy Amaker as one of the major reasons why he decided to play his college basketball for The Hall.

Toney-El also made news on the strength of his impressive performances at the camp. During the three-day event, Toney-El averaged 13 points, 4.5 rebounds per game, and shot 55.3% from the field. Although Toney-El entered the camp with a strong reputation, there's no doubt that he enhanced his national standing with his smart, confident play throughout the week. A camp computer ranking system rated Toney-El the 37th best player out of over 250 players. The camp's top player honors went to Philadelphia's Eddie Griffin.

Griffin, a 6-9 product of Roman Catholic High School, reminds many observers of Tim Duncan with his understated dominance and amazing shot blocking abilities. During the week, the silky smooth Griffin averaged 21.3 points, 9.0 rebounds, and 3.6 blocks per game.

Other camp standouts included, 6-6 Fresno, CA native Delawn Stevenson who led the camp in scoring with a 23.4 average, 6-6 Alabama product Gerald Wallace, who is generally regarded as the most talented player in the country, and 6-4 Jerome "Buddy" Harper of Columbia, South Carolina. Ernest Turner, a 6-2 junior guard out of Sterling High School in Magnolia, NJ, also played well enough to garner a selection to the camp all-star team. From the ABCD camp many of the invited players will head to various AAU tournaments around the country as the talent evaluation season continues in full swing.



Talent from all across the country turned out for the prestigious ABCD Basketball camp, recently held in Teaneck along with scouts from across the country and coaches (From top to bottom right) Toney-El player and St. John's coach Mike Jarvis.

Photos by Pablo Tinto

Wooten new director of athletics at Bloomfield college

BLOOMFIELD— Sheila Wooten of Piscataway was recently appointed Director of Athletics at Bloomfield College. Wooten previously served as Assistant Director of Athletics for eight years and head volleyball coach at Bloomfield College and at New Jersey Institute of Technology. She succeeds Al Restaino, who retired in June after more than 35 years of service to the College. As Assistant Director of Athletics at Bloomfield College, Wooten was selected Regional Female Athletics Administrator of the Year by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) in 1996. As coach of the volleyball team, Wooten guided the Lady Deacons to their best season ever in 1998 with a 26-6 record and a first place finish in the Centennial Atlantic College Conference Tournament and a second place finish in the Northeast Regional Tournament. Wooten graduated



Sheila Wooten appointed new Director of Athletics at Bloomfield College.

from Bloomfield College in 1986, where she excelled in basketball, softball and volleyball. As a forward/center on the women's basketball team, she earned All-American honors twice and

became the first Bloomfield College woman to tally 1,000 career points and grab 1,000 rebounds. For her athletic achievements, Wooten was inducted into the Bloomfield College Hall of Fame in 1990. Bloomfield College was elected to provisional membership in NCAA Division II last fall. The College currently offers intercollegiate athletic teams in men's and women's soccer and basketball, women's softball and volleyball, and men's baseball as part of the Central Atlantic Intercollegiate Conference. NAIA Students may also participate in intramural sports programs. Wooten resides in Piscataway with her husband, Vincent, and her daughters Leila 5, and Nadia, 1.

Players scheduled to appear at the Jam included Linden, N.J., native Tamecka Dixon, who plays for the LA Sparks/Charlotte Sting's Andrea Stinson, who is known as Ms. Jordan, Rhonda Mann and Tia Paschal, just to name a few.

The proceeds from the event is slated for the creation of the Women's All Star Jam trust fund in honor of WNBA player Kim Perrot of the Houston Comets. She was diagnosed with lung cancer this winter and the cancer has since spread to her brain. Although listed on the Comets' roster, Perrot is currently in Mexico undergoing new treatment.

New York hosts the first WNBA All-Star Game

By Glida Rogers
Staff Writer

Oh yes it was ladies night for the WNBA, which tipped off and celebrated the first All-Star basketball game Wednesday night to a sellout crowd of 18,649 fans. With the World Cup women's champion soccer team in the house, it bears mentioning — the ladies have arrived on the scene of professional sports.

The Western Conference players, with the help of the game's MVP Lisa Leslie, who turned in 13 points and five rebounds, dominated the game winning 79-61 over the Eastern Conference squad.

Former ABL players like Natalie Williams netted 14 points, and Yolanda Griffith threw down 10 points. The up and coming all star of the league, Charmique Holdclaw of the Washington Mystics turned in five points before breaking her left index finger. Doctors said she could be out for at least three weeks, but Holdclaw defied their prognosis by stating she would be ready to play in Saturday's game against the Charlotte Sting.

Teresa Weatherpoon of the New York Liberty started for the East and played a total of 17 minutes contributing three points. Teammates Kym Hampton started and Vicky Johnson, who came off the bench and scored six points. Rebecca Lobo was also named to the All-Star team although, she didn't play due to injuries.

The celebrity regulars — Gracyn Hines, Tyra Banks and Spike Lee, along with Liza Minelli and Tracy Ullman were on hand to help the ladies of basketball celebrate the event. Whitney Houston surrounded by children sang the national anthem.

Indeed the hoopla surrounding the inaugural game had a hype event. From the New York participants showing up to sign autographs at the NBA store preceding the game to the All-Star Jam, which took place at the Official All Star Cage immediately following the game.

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Kean University gets a kick out of Martial Arts Expo

UNION— Kean University's Department of Public Safety and Police, in cooperation with the University's Martial Arts Clubs, is sponsoring its first annual "Collective Martial Arts Expo" from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sun., Aug. 1. The event will take place in the University's Green Lane Building, Multipurpose Rooms 2 and 3. The program pays tribute to Asitida Sharief Bey who passed away in January. Bey was founder of Seikyo Kempo Ka, one of several martial arts clubs at Kean. The program will offer a

variety of martial arts from the United States and around the world. Invited guests include Master Bill Wilson of East Orange, Professor Ronald Duncan of New York and Shihan Fundishi Maasi of Newark discussing Goshi-Sun, Koga Ryu Ninjitsu and Kipigana Ngumi, respectively. Training seminars are from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and demonstrations are at 2:30 p.m. The seminars will feature Hoshi Bruce Juchnik, the 22nd generation headmaster of Seikyo Shorei Kempo. Also featured is

Malengo Kibali Maasi of East Orange who will demonstrate Kipigana Ngumi. The event is open to the general public and campus community. Seminar fees are \$15 and demonstration fees are \$10. Kean students can take advantage of a special discount of \$10 for seminars and \$7 for demonstrations. For further information, please contact Thomas Hargrove of Kean's Department of Public Safety and Police at (908) 527-2233 or (978) 552-0651.

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